



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
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BC8

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
08/942,415	10/16/97	KURODA	971154

023850 WM32/1105
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EXAMINER

WALLERSON, M

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED:

31
11/05/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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REPLY BRIEF NOTED.

1. Applicant's reply brief filed on 10/15/2001 is noted **WITH THE FOLLOWING EXCEPTIONS/COMMENTS:**

A. In paragraphs 2 and 4 on page 2 of the Reply Brief, Applicant erroneously quoted statements from the Examiner's Answer filed on 8/15/2001.

Applicant states "*.....the Examiner merely points out that tray 25 rests on an upper surface of body 21*", (lines 3 and 4 of paragraph 2) and "*....as the Examiner correctly points out tray 25 rests on the upper surface of the body 21*", (lines 2 and 3 of paragraph 4). These are **clear** misrepresentations of the Examiners remarks.

Applicant's attention is directed to page 8 of the Examiner's Answer filed on 8/15/2001. The Examiner clearly states "a main body (21) including a base having an exposed upper surface (*which clearly reads on the surface on which tray 25 rests*), and a multi-purpose tray (25) provided on the upper surface of the base. Again, figures 1 and 3 of Kitazawa clearly disclose a feeding tray (25) on an exposed upper surface of the base of the copier" (emphasis added).

Applicant assertion in paragraph 2, page 2 of the Reply Brief that "*a user of Kitazawa's apparatus loads recording sheets into tray 25 which rests on and covers the upper surface of body 21*" is unclear and confusing. Applicant's interpretation of figure 1 that the tray 25 rests on and covers the upper surface of body 21 is baffling. The Examiner believes that the "upper

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surface” would be the area around part 23 of figure 1. Tray 25 is **clearly not** on the “upper surface”, but rest on an exposed upper surface of the base of the copier.

Applicant also asserts that the tray (25) of Kitazawa juts out from the main body (21). Again, the Examiner fails to see the relevance of this. In figure 3 of the instant application, the multi-purpose tray (6) also “juts out” from the main body.

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Wallerson whose telephone number is (703) 305-8581.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

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or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for formal communications intended for entry)

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Crystal Park Two

2121 Crystal Drive

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MARK WALLERSON
PATENT EXAMINER

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